

**International Human Rights Law**  
Spring 2019 - INT 7424

**Monday, January 7:** Historical Context and Development

**Introduction and reading:**

Introduction:

Students should prepare a brief 1 min verbal introduction to include their background, prior experience with international human rights law or other related bodies of law, and expectation(s) for the seminar.

Reading: Please read in the order assigned.

1. Prof. Eric Posner criticizes human rights regime and Prof. Gabor Rona's Response, Lawfare blog, 2012. (TWEN)
2. The Philosophical Underpinnings of Human Rights, pp. 32 (top)-44 (mid). (Casebook)
3. Shestack, Jerome J. "The Philosophic Foundations of Human Rights." *Human Rights Quarterly*, vol. 20, no. 2, 1998, pp. 201–234. (TWEN)
4. A Brief History of Human Rights in International Law and Institutions, pp. 47-53 (mid). (Casebook)
5. President Roosevelt's Address to Congress, "Four Essential Freedoms," 1941, pp 20-22. (TWEN)
6. UN Charter. Articles 1, 55 and 56 (Recommend printing a copy for ease of reference and use throughout the semester). (TWEN)
7. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Preamble. (Recommend printing a copy for ease of reference and use throughout the semester). (TWEN)
8. Mike Posner, "Why We Should Care about Human Rights: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70," *Forbes*, 2018. (TWEN)
9. Hurst Hannum, "We Must Rescue Human Rights – before it's too late" *The Hill*, December 2018. (TWEN)